

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

In Re: AUTOMOTIVE PARTS
ANTITRUST LITIGATION

:
: Master File No. 12-md-02311
: Hon. Marianne O. Battani
:

IN RE: SWITCHES
IN RE: STEERING ANGLE SENSORS
IN RE: HID BALLASTS

:
: 2:13-cv-01303-MOB-MKM
: 2:13-cv-01603-MOB-MKM
: 2:13-cv-01703-MOB-MKM
:

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:

END-PAYOR ACTIONS

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**FINAL JUDGMENT APPROVING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN END-
PAYOR PLAINTIFFS AND PANASONIC AND ENTERING
DISMISSAL WITH PREJUDICE AS TO PANASONIC**

This matter has come before the Court to determine whether there is any cause why this Court should not approve the settlement between End-Payor Plaintiffs (“Plaintiffs”) and Defendants Panasonic Corporation and Panasonic Corporation of North America (together, “Panasonic”) set forth in the Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”), dated February 25, 2015, relating to the above-captioned actions (the “Actions”). The Court, after carefully considering all papers filed and proceedings held herein and otherwise being fully informed in the premises, has determined (1) that the settlement should be approved, and (2) that there is no just reason for delay of the entry of this final judgment approving the Agreement. Accordingly, the Court directs entry of Judgment which shall constitute a final adjudication of this case on the merits as to the parties to the Agreement. Good cause appearing therefor, it is:

ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

1. The definitions of terms set forth in the Agreement are incorporated herein as though fully set forth in this Judgment.

2. Pursuant to Rule 23(g), Class Counsel, previously appointed by the Court (Cotchett, Pitre, & McCarthy LLP, Robins Kaplan LLP, and Susman Godfrey L.L.P.), are appointed as Counsel for the Switches Settlement Class, SAS Settlement Class and HID Ballasts Settlement Class (collectively, "Settlement Classes"). These firms have, and will, fairly and competently represent the interests of the Settlement Classes.

3. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this litigation, over the equitable non-monetary relief contained in paragraph 4, over all actions within this litigation, and over the parties to the Agreement, including all members of the Settlement Classes.

4. Plaintiffs, having filed complaints in the Actions alleging that Panasonic conspired to rig bids, allocate markets and fix prices for Switches, Steering Angle Sensors and HID Ballasts, and Panasonic, having denied Plaintiffs' allegations and represented it would assert defenses thereto, have entered into the Agreement to settle the Actions with respect to Switches, Steering Angle Sensors and HID Ballasts to avoid further expense, inconvenience, and the distraction of burdensome and protracted litigation, to obtain the releases, orders, and judgment contemplated by the Agreement, and to put to rest with finality all claims that have been or could have been asserted against Panasonic with respect to Switches, Steering Angle Sensors and HID Ballasts. Pursuant to the Agreement, Panasonic has agreed to provide specified monetary compensation to Plaintiffs, and to cooperate with Plaintiffs in connection with the continued prosecution of the Actions.

5. The Court hereby finally approves and confirms the settlement set forth in the Agreement and finds that said settlement is, in all respects, fair, reasonable, and adequate to the Settlement Classes pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure (“Rule”) 23.

6. The Court hereby dismisses on the merits and with prejudice the individual and class claims asserted against Panasonic, with Plaintiffs and Panasonic to bear their own costs and attorneys’ fees except as provided herein.

7. All persons and entities who are Releasors are hereby barred and enjoined from commencing, prosecuting, or continuing, either directly or indirectly, against the Panasonic Releasees, in this or any other jurisdiction, any and all claims, causes of action or lawsuits, which they had, have, or in the future may have, arising out of or related to any of the Released Claims as defined in the Agreement.

8. The Panasonic Releasees are hereby and forever released and discharged with respect to any and all claims or causes of action which the Releasors had, have, or in the future may have, arising out of or related to any of the Released Claims as defined in the Agreement.

9. Neither the Agreement, nor any act performed or document executed pursuant to the Agreement, may be deemed or used as an admission of wrongdoing in any civil, criminal, administrative, or other proceeding in any jurisdiction.

10. The notice given to the Settlement Classes of the settlement set forth in the Agreement and the other matters set forth herein was the best notice practicable under the circumstances, including individual notice to all members of the Settlement Classes who could be identified through reasonable efforts. Said notice provided due and adequate notice of the proceedings and of the matters set forth therein, including the proposed settlement set forth in the

Agreement, to all persons entitled to such notice, and said notice fully satisfied the requirements of Rules 23(c)(2) and 23(e) and the requirements of due process.

11. Without affecting the finality of this Final Judgment, the Court retains exclusive jurisdiction over: (a) the enforcement of this Final Judgment; (b) the enforcement of the Agreement; (c) any application for distribution of funds, attorneys' fees or reimbursement of costs and expenses made by Plaintiffs' Counsel; (d) any application for incentive awards for the End-Payor Plaintiffs; and (e) the distribution of the settlement proceeds to Settlement Classes members.

12. The persons and entities identified on Exhibit "A" hereto have timely and validly requested exclusion from the Settlement Classes and, therefore, are excluded. Such persons and entities are not included in or bound by this Judgment. Such persons and entities are not entitled to any recovery from the settlement proceeds obtained through this settlement. Nothing in this Judgment shall be construed as a determination by this Court that such persons and entities are members of any of the classes or proposed classes in the *In re Automotive Parts Antitrust Litigation*, Master File No. 12-md-02311.

13. In the event that the settlement does not become effective in accordance with the terms of the Agreement, then the judgment shall be rendered null and void and shall be vacated, and in such event, all orders entered and releases delivered in connection herewith shall be null and void and the parties shall be returned to their respective positions ex ante.

14. The Escrow Accounts, into which Panasonic has deposited assets with a total value of \$5,296,175 for the Switches action, \$6,293,229 for the Steering Angle Sensors action and \$5,510,596 for the HID Ballasts action, as of the Execution Date of the Agreement as the settlement amounts, plus accrued interest thereon and net any expenses incurred as contemplated

in paragraphs 24 and 26 of the Agreement, are approved as Qualified Settlement Funds pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Section 468B and the Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder.

15. The Court finds, pursuant to Rule 54(a) and (b) that this Final Judgment should be entered and further finds that there is no just reason for delay in the entry of this Judgment, as a Final Judgment, as to the parties to the Agreement.

16. The Court's certification of the Settlement Classes as provided herein is without prejudice to, or waiver of, the rights of any Defendant, including Panasonic, to contest certification of any other class proposed in the *In re Automotive Parts Antitrust Litigation*, Master File No. 12-md-02311. The Court's findings in this Final Judgment shall have no effect on the Court's ruling on any motion to certify any class in the *In re Automotive Parts Antitrust Litigation*, Master File No. 12-md-02311. No party may cite or refer to the Court's approval of the Settlement Classes as persuasive or binding authority with respect to any motion to certify any class.

Date: August 12, 2016

s/Marianne O. Battani
MARIANNE O. BATTANI
United States District Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing Order was served upon counsel of record via the Court's ECF System to their respective email addresses or First Class U.S. mail to the non-ECF participants on August 12, 2016.

s/ Kay Doaks
Case Manager

Exhibit A

- Cecil R. Proctor
- Robert Clarke
- Mary Glenn
- GEICO Corporation, Government Employees Insurance Company, GEICO General Insurance Company, GEICO Indemnity Company, GEICO Casualty Company, GEICO Advantage Insurance Company, GEICO Choice Insurance Company, GEICO Secure Insurance Company, GEICO County Mutual Insurance Company, and GEICO Insurance Agency, Inc.